

# ABSTRACT

An object of the present invention is to ensure that a hydraulic excavator with an open center circuit is capable, 5 even when using a bucket of a different weight, of a compatible level of operability to that obtained by tuning with a standard bucket.

Boom operating valves, a stick operating valve 251, etc. for respectively controlling hydraulic fluid fed from 10 hydraulic pumps 28 to boom cylinders, a stick cylinder 25, and other actuators are provided with center by-pass lines Cb. A stick-in meter-out load pressure compensating valve 42 is provided on a rod-side return line 55, which extends from a rod side 25r of the stick cylinder 25 to a tank 29. 15 A pressure sensor 81 is provided at the rod side 25r of the stick cylinder 25 so as to detect pressure of hydraulic fluid fed to the rod side 25r. The center by-pass line Cb associated with the stick operating valve 251 is provided with an electromagnetic relief valve 85 for controlling the 20 pressure in the portion of the center bypass line downstream from the stick operating valve 251 so as to increase the pressure in accordance with.